

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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October 3, 2011

Michael Machado
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, California 95690

RE: National Heritage Area Designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), I am writing to express my support for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, currently the subject of a Delta Protection Commission (DPC) feasibility study.

The mission of OHP is to provide leadership and promote the preservation of California's irreplaceable and diverse cultural heritage. OHP is the state agency primarily responsible for administering and implementing historic preservation programs in California, and either administers or influences most state and federal preservation programs.

OHP supports this project, as a NHA is a valuable tool to bring more visibility and recognition to the historic and cultural resources sites of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Historic preservation opportunities have been discussed throughout the Delta NHA feasibility study process and have been recognized as a potential goal of a Delta NHA. OHP recognizes the potential for historic preservation projects throughout the Delta, particularly within the Legacy Communities along the Sacramento River. A Delta NHA will also be a way to increase recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education.

Again, on behalf of OHP, I am writing to express support for a Delta NHA. If you have any questions or need future assistance, please contact Jay Correia of my staff at (916) 445-7008.

Sincerely,

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer